



# Radio company amplifies its output in new home

**Radio communications company Fern has tuned into expansion and innovation since relocating from London to Lowestoft.**

A previously two-man venture has grown to 11 staff, and has designed and made a range of bespoke radio products for use all over the globe.

Fern was founded in London in 2002 by directors Clive and Jennifer Cushion, but moved to Lowestoft a year later. It quickly established itself as one of the largest suppliers of specialist two-way communication solutions along the east coast of Suffolk.



It supplies and hires ATEX radios, repeaters and accessories to its main markets of the oil and gas and renewable energy sectors.

Since 2007 Fern has brought seven unique products to the market - all designed and manufactured in Lowestoft. They are used

## Fern Communications

Fern Communications is one of the UK's largest designers, makers and suppliers of radio systems. It supplies to the offshore energy, power station, shipping and rescue sectors.

worldwide and closer to home and offer an unparalleled service to energy customers.

One of the products is Wavecom a custom-built two-way radio network for the new Galloper wind farm off the Suffolk coast, to provide seamless communications between the farm and local ports, transit routes, and marine co-ordination centres servicing it.

The solution overcame geographical and technical challenges including a flat coastline's lack of high vantage points for installing radio masts to give strong offshore coverage - overcome through using multi-site repeaters. The Wavecom system has gone on to be used on the EA1 & Moray East wind farm off Scotland.

Fern received support from New Anglia Small Grant Scheme to buy a state of the art digital test set to service customers' digital radio equipment.

The company received funding from the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Programme in 2017 thanks to its EEEZ location.

To cope with an expanding workload and staff, in 2018 the company moved from its industrial unit on the south Lowestoft industrial estate to larger industrial premises with offices and workshops at Hadenham Road in Lowestoft.

The company has also exhibited at all East of England Energy Group Southern North Sea conferences since 2007.

Fern aims to continue R&D into new technologies to enable it to stay ahead of the competition - and is keen to discuss EEEZ partner support for its future plans.

**“Companies in our area must realise the potential within their grasp”**

## Why invest in the East of England Energy Zone?

“There is literally a sea of opportunity just off our coast. Companies in our area must realise the potential within their grasp” - Clive Cushion, technical director.

**For more information on relocation and investment opportunities in the East of England Energy Zone, please contact:**

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